



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/878,936	06/13/2001	Yoshihiro Honma	35.C15439US	3546
5514	7590	12/20/2005	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO			LEE, MICHAEL	
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA				
NEW YORK, NY 10112			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/878,936

Applicant(s)

HONMA ET AL.

Examiner

M. Lee

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 40-44 and 56-59 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34, 37-39, 45, 47-49 and 51-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 35, 36, 46 and 50 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 34, 37-39, 45, 47-49, 51-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reitmeier (6,549,240) in view of Koh (6,300,982), further in view of Kitade et al. (6,590,609).

Regarding claim 34, Reitmeier discloses a format conversion system showing a resizing unit (150,140), a memory unit (frame buffer 160), and a first conversion unit (col. 6, lines 4-14), except the second conversion unit and the image pickup element as claimed. However, Reitmeier teaches that a liquid crystal display (LCD) can be used as the alternative of the CRT display 175. Koh, from the similar field of endeavor, discloses a LCD display apparatus including a parallel-to-serial converter 280 for converting parallel RGB data into RGB serial data. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include the LCD display apparatus of Koh into Reitmeier to perform the well known functions as claimed. Reitmeier further teaches that the invention is applicable to any multiple format video processing system, including those systems adapted to DVB, MPEG-1, MPEG-2 and other information streams (col. 3, lines 26-33). Kitade, from the similar

Art Unit: 2614

field of endeavor, teaches a digital camera that generates MPEG signals (col. 1, lines 28-35). Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include Kitade into Reitmeier to perform the well known functions as claimed.

Regarding claim 37, Koh shows a display unit 300.

Regarding claim 38, Koh shows LCD display unit for displaying a plurality of serial RGB data.

Regarding claim 39, see Reitmeier, col. 6, lines 59-60.

Regarding claim 45, see rejection to claim 34.

Regarding claim 47, see Reitmeier, col. 6, lines 59-60.

Regarding claim 48, Kitade shows an image pickup unit 4.

Regarding claim 49, in addition of rejection to claim 34, Koh further shows a second resizing unit adapted to resize the RGB image (see scaling unit 230).

Regarding claim 51, Koh further shows a LCD panel 300.

Regarding claim 52, see Reitmeier, col. 6, lines 59-60.

Regarding claim 53, Kitade shows an image pickup unit 4.

Regarding claim 54, Koh shows a display unit 300.

Regarding claim 55, Reitmeier does not specify the third conversion unit as claimed. However, Reitmeier teaches that the display 175 can be a digital mirror device (DMD) (see col. 8, lines 12-13). Since a digital mirror device is operated in a different format than the CRT or LCD, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention was made to include a conversion unit into Reitmeier so that the DMD display device could display the RGB signal.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 40-44, 56-59 are allowed.
4. Claims 35, 36, 46 and 50 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 9/30/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's argument that neither Reitmeier nor Koh is directed to an image processing apparatus that processes an image captured by an image pickup element included therein, the examiner disagrees. As set forth in the rejection above, Reitmeier clearly suggest that different format of video signals, such as MPEG, can be used as the input signal. And Kitade teaches a digital camera that generates a MPEG video signal. In view of Kitade, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Reitmeier so that the MPEG video signal generated from the digital camera of Kitade could be adapted. Accordingly, the combination of Reitmeier, Koh, and Kitade meets the claimed invention.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Lee whose telephone number 571-272-7349. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9 to 6.

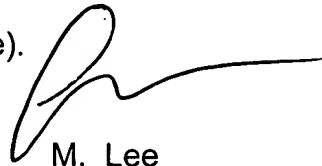
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller, can be reached on 571-272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

Art Unit: 2614

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Lee', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

M. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614